



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1329.0.55.002 - Vineyards, Australia, 2014-15

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## Summary

### Main Features

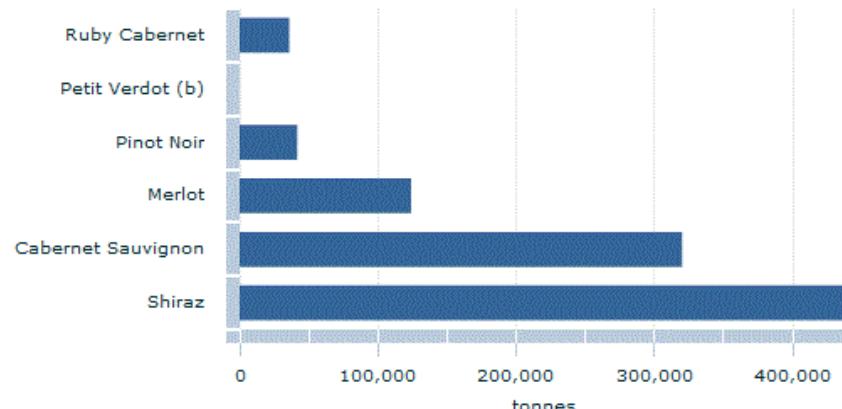
#### KEY WINE VARIETY FIGURES

#### WINE VARIETIES, Australia, year ended 30 June 2015

	Production t	Bearing area ha	Yield t/ha
<b>RED WINE</b>			
Shiraz	395,154	38,942	10.2
Cabernet Sauvignon	202,672	23,987	8.5
Merlot	111,533	8,415	13.3
Pinot Noir	43,223	4,804	9.0
Petit Verdot	22,434	1,117	20.1
Ruby Cabernet	13,557	848	16.0
<b>WHITE WINE</b>			
Chardonnay	340,773	21,321	16.0
Sauvignon Blanc	83,505	6,044	13.8
Semillon	65,411	4,555	14.4
Pinot Gris	61,387	3,651	16.8
Colombard	55,608	1,789	31.1
Muscat Gordo Blanco	52,010	2,178	23.9

#### Red wine varieties(a)

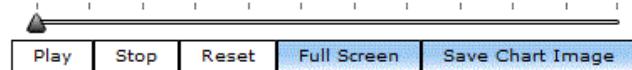
2004



■ Varieties

#### Controls

2004 2006 2008 2010 2012 2014 2015



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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**Footnote(s):** (a) Data not collected for 2011, 2013 and 2014 seasons. (b) Data only available for 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2015 seasons.

**Source(s):** Vineyards, Australia 2014-15

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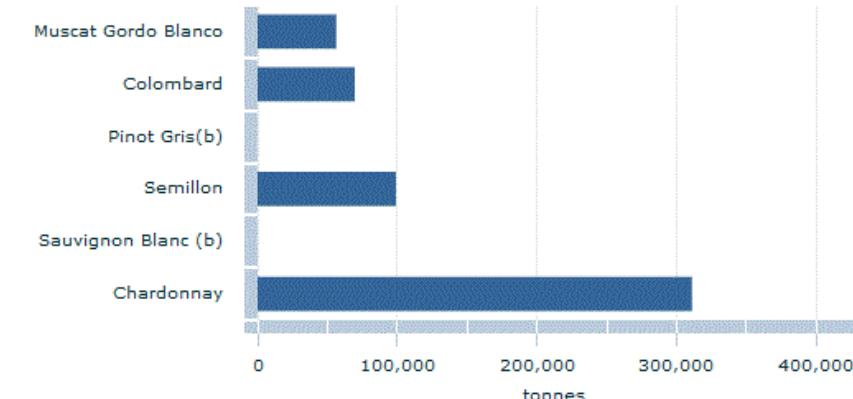
## KEY WINE VARIETY FINDINGS

### Red Wine

- In 2015, red wine grape production increased 5% from 2012 to 844,000 tonnes and red wine grape vines accounted for 64% of all vines planted in Australia.
- The most popular varieties produced were Shiraz (almost half of total red wine production) at 395,000 tonnes, Cabernet Sauvignon at 203,000 tonnes and Merlot at 112,000 tonnes.

#### White wine varieties(a)

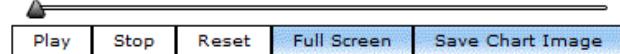
2004



■ Varieties

#### Controls

2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012



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**Source(s):** Vineyards, Australia 2014-15

- South Australia produced the majority (54%) of Australia's red wine grapes in 2015 with 454,000 tonnes, followed by New South Wales (25%) and Victoria (19%).

## White Wine

- In 2015, production of white wine grapes decreased nationally (down to 764,000 tonnes) and in all states and territories except Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.
- The top white wine varieties produced were Chardonnay (almost half of national white wine production) with 341,000 tonnes, Sauvignon Blanc with 84,000 tonnes and Semillon with 65,400 tonnes (down by 16% or 12,500 tonnes).
- Approximately 75% of Australia's white wine grapes were produced in South Australia and New South Wales.

## KEY WATER SOURCE AND METHODS FIGURES

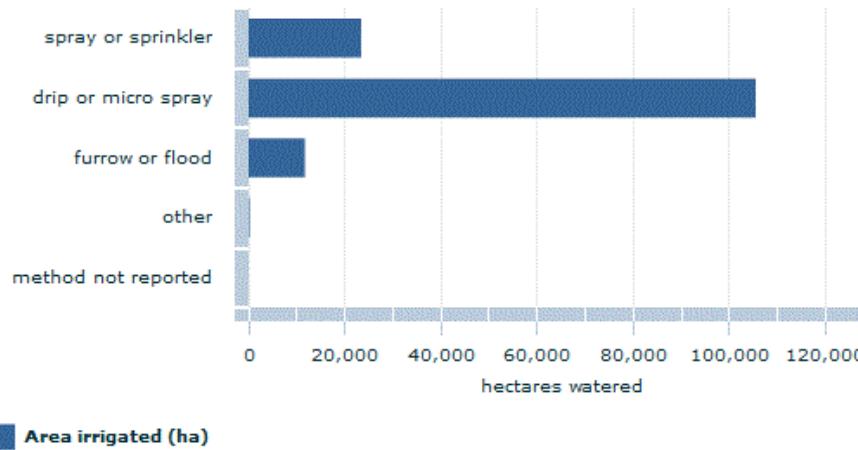
### WATER SOURCES AND METHODS, year ended 30 June 2015

	Aust.	NSW (a)	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
<b>VOLUME OF WATER USED BY SOURCE (ML)</b>							
Irrigation channels	208,170	99,890	42,037	107	65,792	178	166
On-farm dams or tanks	17,789	1,144	4,847	118	4,025	6,672	983
Rivers, creeks, lakes etc.	159,014	32,590	34,994	448	89,621	969	351
Groundwater	40,627	3,675	3,352	12	32,274	1,306	9
Recycled/re-used water from off-farm sources	4,478	3	366	0	4,099	0	10
Town or country reticulated mains supply	6,765	2,204	179	0	4,254	14	114
Other	3,322	35	681	2	2,598	0	6
<i>Total</i>	<i>440,165</i>	<i>139,540</i>	<i>86,457</i>	<i>727</i>	<i>202,664</i>	<i>9,138</i>	<i>1,369</i>
<b>AREA IRRIGATED BY METHOD (ha)</b>							
Spray or sprinkler (excluding micro spray)	7,849	1,199	2,360	12	4,167	79	33
Drip or micro spray	112,474	27,785	17,334	396	58,621	7,316	1,022
Furrow or flood	3,015	2,688	149	0	159	18	1
Other	67	28	7	1	25	6	0
Method not reported	1,314	141	78	0	832	19	243

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory

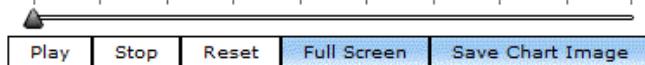
#### Watering methods

2004



#### Controls

2004 2006 2008 2010 2012 2015



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**Source(s):** Vineyards, Australia 2014-15

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## KEY WATER SOURCE AND METHODS FINDINGS

- In 2015, 440,000 megalitres of water was used to irrigate vineyards, an 18% increase since the 2012 season due to dry conditions. The principal water source used was irrigation channels or irrigation pipelines, accounting for 208,000 megalitres applied.
- Vineyards in South Australia accounted for 46% (or 203,000 megalitres) of total water use, followed by New South Wales with 32% (or 140,000 megalitres) and Victoria with 20% (or 86,500 megalitres).
- Watering by drip or micro spray remained the most popular method with 112,000 hectares of vineyards watered this way nationally, a fall of

7% since the 2012 season.

- More detailed information is available in datacubes under the Downloads tab

## About this Release

Provides estimates from the Vineyards Census. This includes information at national and state levels on areas of vines (including: areas bearing, not yet bearing and those removed or grafted) and production of grapes. It also includes summary data on major grape varieties.

## Explanatory Notes

### Explanatory Notes

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents estimates from the ABS Vineyards 2015 collection.

**2** The Vineyards 2015 collection was run on behalf of the Australian Grape and Wine Authority (AGWA). It is designed to collect small area, detailed wine grape varietal information. Information was collected from wine grape growers on selected wine grape varieties, including area of vines (bearing area, area not yet bearing and area removed), wine grape production and water use, including total area watered and volume of water used, water sources and watering methods. The results of this survey will be used to measure the viticulture industry's activity throughout Australia and to support decision making, research and analysis by grape and wine industry policy makers, researchers and the community.

**3** Estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from the Vineyards collection for the 2015 harvest, year ending 30 June 2015. A copy of the 2015 Vineyards survey form can be found under the Downloads tab of this publication.

##### SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**4** The Vineyards 2015 collection was a census of all in-scope vineyards. Estimates of area, production and yield are presented in the publication for Australia and states and territories, and are available for sub-state regions in the attached data cubes (which can be located under the Downloads tab of this publication). The sub-state regions are based on Australian Geographical Indication (GI) zones and regions. Data on watering sources and methods are also available in an attached data cube.

**5** Australian GI Zones and GI Regions are official descriptions of Australian wine zones as defined in the **Australian Grape and Wine Authority Act 2013**. For more detail on Australian Geographical Indications (GIs), see the Australian Government ComLaw website.

**6** The scope of the Vineyards 2015 collection was agricultural businesses undertaking viticultural activity recorded on the ABS Business Register (ABSBR) above a minimum size cut-off applied to the value of their agricultural operations.

For the purposes of this survey a business is identified as undertaking viticultural activity as defined by the 2006 edition of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC). For more information, please refer to Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0). The ABSBR is based on the Australian Business Register (ABR) which is administered and maintained by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Most businesses and organisations in Australia are required to obtain an Australian Business Number (ABN) from the ATO for their business operations.

**7** A minimum size cut-off of \$5,000 was applied to determine whether a business was in-scope for the Vineyards 2015 collection. This measure of size was based on the ABS' Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations (EVAO) or a derived value based on turnover reported by a viticultural business operation in its Business Activity Statement (BAS).

**8** Only data on wine grapes was collected by the Vineyards 2015 collection. Information on table grapes and grapes for drying was excluded.

**9** Viticulture statistics relate to the year in which the harvest occurred and are derived from information obtained in a collection of all known growers.

**10** The Vineyards 2015 final estimates are based on a response rate of 87% from an in-scope population of approximately 7,900 viticultural businesses.

## COLLECTION METHOD

**11** Information for the Vineyards 2015 collection was collected through an electronic (web-based) survey form, supplemented with paper form collection on request and phone-based follow up. This was the first vineyards collection to use an e-form, with 83% of businesses using this mode of reporting.

## RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES (SAMPLE ERROR)

**12** The estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from respondents to the Vineyards 2015 collection. However, since not all of the businesses that were selected provided data, the estimates are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all businesses had provided data.

**13** Census data are subject to a number of inaccuracies resulting from errors by respondents or mistakes in collection or processing. Whilst many of these are corrected by careful processing procedures, some still remain. The effect of the remaining errors is generally small.

The main kinds of errors occurring in a Census are:

- Partial non-response: In some cases where an answer is not provided to a question, an answer may be imputed (often from other information on the form);
- Processing error: While such errors can occur in any processing system, quality management is used continuously to improve the quality of processed data, and to identify and correct data of unacceptable quality; and
- Respondent error: Because processing procedures cannot detect or repair all errors made by people in completing their forms, some remain in final data;

**14** In this publication, 'sampling' variability of the estimates is measured by the relative standard error (RSE). Most published estimates have RSEs less than 10%. For some states and territories with limited production of certain varieties, RSEs are greater than 10%. Estimates that have an estimated RSE between 10% and 25% should be used with caution as they are subject to sampling variability too high for some purposes. Estimates with an RSE between 25% and 50% should also be used with caution as they are subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

Estimates with an RSE greater than 50% at the national, state and territory, and GI Zone level have been suppressed in this publication as they are considered too unreliable for general use. Where estimates for data items have been suppressed at the national, state or territory level, they have also been suppressed at the sub-state level. Where estimates for data items have been suppressed at the GI Zone level, they have also been suppressed at the GI Region level. Where figures have been suppressed, they have been included in relevant totals.

RSEs for all estimates are available on request.

## **ROUNDING**

**15** Where figures have been rounded or suppressed, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## **RELATED PUBLICATIONS**

**16** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed under the Statistics page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

## **ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**

**17** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

## **GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**18** ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued

cooperation is very much appreciated. Without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the **Census and Statistics Act 1905**.

## PRIVACY

**19** The ABS Privacy Policy outlines how the ABS will handle any personal information that you provide to the ABS.

# Glossary

## GLOSSARY

### **Area of varieties removed**

Varieties removed by grubbing, grafting off, or abandoning to die after the 2014 harvest but before the 2015 harvest.

### **Australian Business Number (ABN)**

If they apply, companies registered under the Corporations Act and business entities carrying on a business in Australia are entitled to an ABN. The ABN is an 11 digit number. It is a single identifier for use in business dealings with government agencies.

### **Australian Business Register (ABR)**

When an organisation applies for, and receives, an ABN the business details from their application become part of the Australian Business Register (ABR). The ABR is the central collection, storage, and verification system for basic business identity information for all entities with an ABN.

### **Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC)**

A standard classification developed for use in Australia and New Zealand for the production and analysis of industry statistics. The standard is also aligned with international standards in industry classification. Industry value estimates, industry financial estimates and trade export estimates are all presented in terms of ANZSIC. ANZSIC Subdivision 01, Agriculture, includes classes such as fruit industries, which comprises classes 0131-0139, beef cattle farming (class 0142), and pigs (0192). The ANZSIC for grapevines is 0131.

### **Bearing**

Newly planted vines usually take three to four years before bearing. Bearing can occasionally occur within two years from planting.

### **Bearing area**

Bearing area includes area of vines with no or minimal yields.

### **Geographical Indication (GI) regions**

GI is a name or sign used on certain products which correspond to a specific geographical location or origin (e.g. a town, region, or country).

### **Grafting**

Cutting off at the base of existing vines, then grafting a different type of grape to the existing vine. When grafting vines, bearing may start as soon as 12 months.

### **Grubbing**

Total removal of vines. To pull up the vines by the roots and replace them with other agricultural crops.

### **Irrigation**

The action of applying water to land in order to supply crops and other plants with necessary water.

### **Total area**

Total area includes bearing area and not yet bearing area.

### **Total area of grapes left on the vine or dropped on the ground**

Total area of grapes left on the vine or dropped on the ground at maturity in season 2015.

### **Yield**

Calculated by dividing production by bearing area.

## **Abbreviations**

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ABN	Australian Business Number
ABR	Australian Business Register
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSBR	Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AGWA	Australian Grape and Wine Authority
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
Aust.	Australia
BAS	Business Activity Statement
cat. no.	Catalogue number
EVAO	Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations
GI	Geographical Indication
ha	hectare
m	million

ML	megalitre
no.	number
NSW	New South Wales
Qld	Queensland
RSE	relative standard error
SA	South Australia
t	tonne
t/ha	tonnes per hectare
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

## Quality Declaration

### QUALITY DECLARATION - SUMMARY

#### INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

For information on the institutional environment of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

#### RELEVANCE

Final estimates from the Vineyards 2015 collection will be presented in **Vineyards, Australia** (cat. no. 1329.0.55.002). This publication contains detailed statistics on the Australian viticulture industry and presents data on a national, state and territory basis, with data also available for Australian Geographical Indication (GI) regions.

The Vineyards 2015 collection was undertaken as a census. Detailed information was collected for 40 of the major wine grape varieties, including total area under vine, bearing area, area not yet bearing, area of vines removed, and production of grapes for winemaking or distillation. In addition, information was collected on area of grapes left on the vine or dropped to the ground at maturity, total area of wine grapes watered and volume of water used, sources of water and watering methods.

The Vineyards 2015 collection was run on behalf of the Australian Grape and Wine Authority (AGWA). The results of this survey will be used to measure the viticulture industry's activity throughout Australia and to support decision making, research and analysis by grape and wine industry policy makers, researchers and the community.

## **TIMELINESS**

Vineyards, Australia (cat. no. 1329.0.55.002) will be published within 4 months of the end of the reference period.

## **ACCURACY**

Data from the Vineyards 2015 collection are based on a response rate of 87% and have been extensively quality assured. The resultant estimates have been checked against earlier years' estimates and relevant other sources, including contact with data providers and industry bodies, to ensure the accuracy of estimates produced.

All estimates in this publication are subject to sampling error. For more information about these errors, refer to the Explanatory Notes within this release.

## **COHERENCE**

The Vineyards 2015 collection was conducted using a frame based on the Australian Taxation Office's Australian Business Register (ABR). The estimates are directly comparable with previous census-based estimates for the wine grape varieties collected.

Only data on wine grapes was collected by the Vineyards 2015 collection. Information on table grapes and grapes for drying was excluded.

## **INTERPRETABILITY**

The Vineyards 2015 collection provides detailed statistics on the Australian viticulture industry and presents data on a national, state and territory basis. These statistics are used to measure the industry's activity throughout Australia.

Detailed Explanatory Notes are provided with this publication to assist users in determining and specifying their data requirements and to understand the concepts underlying the data.

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

An extensive range of data is available from the Vineyards collection and a variety of other agriculture based collections on the ABS website.

If the information you require is not available as a standard product or service, then ABS Consultancy Services can help you with customised services to suit your needs. Inquiries should be made to either the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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